

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: QWEST CORPORATION (f/k/a U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.), AND CHOCTAW COMMUNICATIONS, INC. (f/k/a CHOCTAW COMMUNICATIONS, L.C.), d/b/a SMOKE SIGNAL COMMUNICATIONS	DOCKET NO. NIA-00-31
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**ORDER APPROVING NEGOTIATED
INTERCONNECTION AGREEMENT**

(Issued August 8, 2000)

On June 30, 2000, U S WEST Communications, Inc. (U S WEST), and Choctaw Communications, Inc. (f/k/a Choctaw Communications, L.C.), d/b/a Smoke Signal Communications, filed a negotiated interconnection agreement for review by the Utilities Board (Board) pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e). On July 21, 2000, the Board issued an order identifying the proceeding as Docket No. NIA-00-31 and allowing any interested party the opportunity to submit written comments supporting approval or rejection of the agreement within 30 days of the filing. No comments were filed.

Pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 252(e)(2)(A), the Board may reject a negotiated interconnection agreement if it finds either (1) the agreement discriminates against a telecommunications carrier not a party to the agreement, or (2) the implementation of

the agreement is not consistent with the public interest, convenience, and necessity. Based upon the record made in this docket, the Board finds that the filed agreement does not discriminate against any other carrier and is not inconsistent with the public purpose and will be approved.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The negotiated interconnection agreement filed on June 30, 2000, by Qwest Corporation (f/k/a U S WEST Communications, Inc.), and Choctaw Communications, Inc. (f/k/a Choctaw Communications, L.C.) d/b/a Smoke Signal Communications, is approved to be effective upon issuance of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 8th day of August, 2000.